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DDI- 04261-84/1

The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Hugh Montgomery
Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

SUBJECT: The Prospects for Iran

REFERENCE: Your Memorandum of 23 July 1984, Same Subject

1. We received your series of questions on the evolving situation in Pakistan about which Ken Dam has expressed interest. The points raised in your memorandum are actually going to be treated in an estimate on Iran that we have underway for late August. I understand that INR will, in fact, be supplying the drafter.

2. We had been hoping to prepare an estimate on these and other issues somewhat sooner but delayed the paper because DDI/NESA is in the process of completing a key paper based on much new research on the nature of the opposition to Khomeini. We felt that any estimate would need to draw on this paper.

3. The questions Ken raises are good ones. We are tentatively planning to cover roughly the following areas in our proposed estimate.

- Who are the main players in Iranian politics below the top level both clerical and civilian?
- What is the opposition to Khomeini, both domestic and foreign?
- What has been the impact upon Tehran of internal economic, social, and political pressures and external developments, particularly the war?
- What will the role of the military be in a future succession, both Red Guard and regular Army?

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- What is likely to occur after Khomeini dies?
- What are current Soviet tactics towards Iran as well as longer range intentions and capabilities?
- Implications for the US?

4. I would hope to have this estimate ready for NFIB in late September.


Robert M. Gates
Chairman

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